

CAROLINA COUNTRY



DEMPSEY ESSICK

Looking at your annual meetings

Page 7

Good friend retires

Page 14, Page 28



"We're so positive that Roach Kill will kill every last roach in your house that we'll send you a free gift just for trying it."

"ROACHES!

I HAD THEM BY THE HUNDREDS, BUT NOW I DON'T HAVE A SINGLE ROACH"

(By J. Robson)

Have you ever seen a roach run out of a bowl as you were about to put food in it? Well, I have. Just turn out the lights and an army of roaches would attack the whole house.

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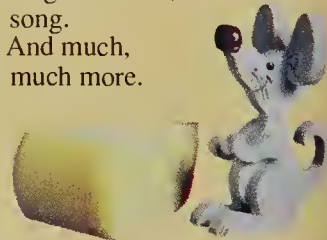
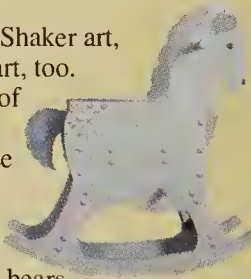
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Official Publication
Carolina Electric Cooperatives

Carolina Electric Cooperatives is the network of electric cooperative organizations that provides reliable, safe and affordable electric service to 600,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolina. At the heart of Carolina Electric Cooperatives are the state's 28 Electric Membership Corporations, each member-owned, not-for-profit and overseen by a board of directors elected by the membership.

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CAROLINA COUNTRY

Our View

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As consumer-members of an electric cooperative, you can cast your vote on more than one election day. Philip L. Wally, general manager of Union EMC, Monroe, explains how.

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The member-owners of North Carolina electric co-ops get together once a year to socialize and make decisions directly affecting the operations of the utility that serves them. Take a look at what happens at these meetings.



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Feature 14

One of the best friends of the national electric cooperative program is a North Carolina native who

retired in July. He's J.C. Brown, whose co-op career began as editor of this magazine.

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Some of the best and brightest of rising high school seniors toured Washington, D.C. this summer, courtesy of the electric co-ops.

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The People Fest in Wadesboro ... catfish races in Gastonia ... Grandpa Crachet in Laurinburg ... dolls in Greenville.

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Time to tidy up.

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A tribute to J.C. Brown, in his own write.



On the Cover

"Carolina Heritage," a painting by Dempsey Essick of Welcome, N.C., was commissioned as the commemorative art for First Night Piedmont '94. The First Night celebrations will take place in five locations throughout the state on New Year's Eve. Essick will create commemorative art for each. For information about First Night art, call Mid-Atlantic Marketing in Winston-Salem at (919) 722-0066.

At co-op meetings and at the polls

Have your say on Election Days

Don't forget to exercise your right to vote when the next Election Days roll around in your community.

I refer to "Election Days" as a way of reminding you that voting is your privilege as a citizen under the democratic form of government—and as a member of an electric cooperative. The term is quite appropriate as a label for both kinds of voting even though it's rarely used in reference to co-op elections.

As a registered voter, you vote to express yourself on candidates, bond issues and proposals affecting laws and government policies.

As a co-op member-owner, you can use your vote to help determine how that enterprise operates—by electing its leaders and, perhaps, by joining your fellow members in influencing its priorities through formal resolutions.

See related photo essay, pages 7-9.

The elections, which are part of every Electric Membership Corporation's Annual Meeting of members, involve a formal nomination process and one-member, one-vote participation. They allow the consumer-mem-

bers to elect the representatives who serve on the board of directors.

That's important but the meeting is far more than just an "Election Day" for the EMC. The agendas for such gatherings also usually include reports from the board and management regarding



Philip L. Wally

Voting is your privilege as a citizen under the democratic form of government—and as a member of an electric cooperative

the co-op's financial condition and its activities during the previous year.

In addition, the members may be able to enjoy food, special entertainment, exhibits, free health care monitoring services and children's activities. Door prizes are usually awarded.

All in all, it can be an occasion for neighbors to greet one another in a social setting and remember once again that they are linked by more than geog-

raphy: they share in the ownership of their electric utility.

This fall, all North Carolina voters will be asked to decide the fate of a \$740 million bond issue to finance various projects. No candidates for statewide offices will be on the ballot. However, local government elections are scheduled in communities all across the state.

In 13 communities, consumer-members of local electric co-ops will vote in director elections and otherwise participate in Annual Meeting programs. The details of those meetings are listed on page 10.

If your cooperative isn't on that list, its next Annual Meeting/Election Day may be later this year or sometime in 1994. Watch your EMC's mailings and this magazine for advance notices of these events.


Whenever any of these Election Days pop up on your community calendar, remember that they offer you an opportunity to influence decisions directly affecting you and your lifestyle.

If your schedule will not allow you to visit the polls, you can still arrange to vote by absentee ballot in governmental elections. Call your local board

of elections office for details. If you can't attend the co-op Annual Meeting, you can still vote in the elections through the use of an official proxy. Local EMC officials can guide you through that procedure.

It's worth the effort because in each case you will be participating in an important democ-

cratic process that chooses leaders and shapes policies through majority rule. If you'll take the initiative, you can have a voice in these decisions.

My advice echoes the tagline of those slick ads for Nike running shoes: Just do it! 

Philip L. Wally is general manager of Union Electric Membership Corporation, Monroe, N.C.

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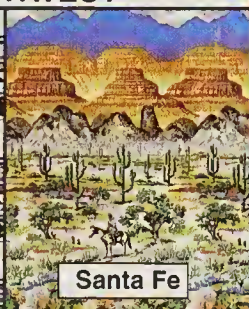
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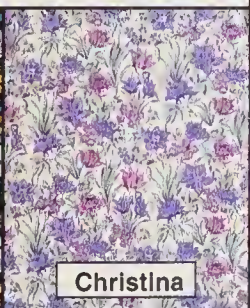
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The N.C. Alternative Energy Corporation exhibited its electric car at Randolph EMC's meeting.

Jerry Markatos

Feature

At annual meetings

Co-op member-owners take care of business

Cooperative *n* (1883) : an enterprise or organization owned by and operated for the benefit of those using its services.

—Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary

"Meet the owners of one of North Carolina's top 20 companies," begins a television commercial for Carolina Electric Cooperatives, the network of 13 electric cooperatives across the state.

The video footage shows members of an electric cooperative greeting one

another as they assemble for the co-op's annual meeting. It's a casual, folksy crowd—and not a business suit in sight.

This is clearly no ordinary gathering of proprietors. As members of their local electric co-op, these people not only use the electricity, they also own the operation. They elect the board

of directors. The directors hire a manager. The manager supervises the utility.

That's how a cooperative works. The consumer-members have a say in the business.

Once a year, members of cooperatives hold a meeting for official reasons to:

- elect representatives to the board of directors.
- review the past year's business operations.
- consider revisions to bylaws.

- vote on business plans.

The annual meetings also have other, not-so-official purposes, such as:

- meet new members and greet old friends.
- enjoy local food and entertainment.
- learn about advances in the energy industry.
- discuss the co-op's community involvement.

Co-op annual meetings across North Carolina usually conclude with agreement that business was conducted fairly and democratically, and that "a good time was had by all."

These pages show a sampling of the activities at those meetings.



A local school chorus performed at this Harkers Island EMC meeting.

Jay Johnson



Randy Wheelless

Left photo—Manager Mark Suggs addressed members at a Pitt & Greene EMC meeting. Right photo—Randolph EMC EVP Bob McDuffie (left), discussed business with a former co-op director.



Jerry Markatos

A magician wowed the younger set at Randolph EMC's meeting.



Bobby Bea



Applause for a job well done at Halifax EMC.

David Kidwell



Union EMC members at registration and capital credits booths in 1992.



David Kidwell



Randy Wheelless

Registration at Halifax EMC.

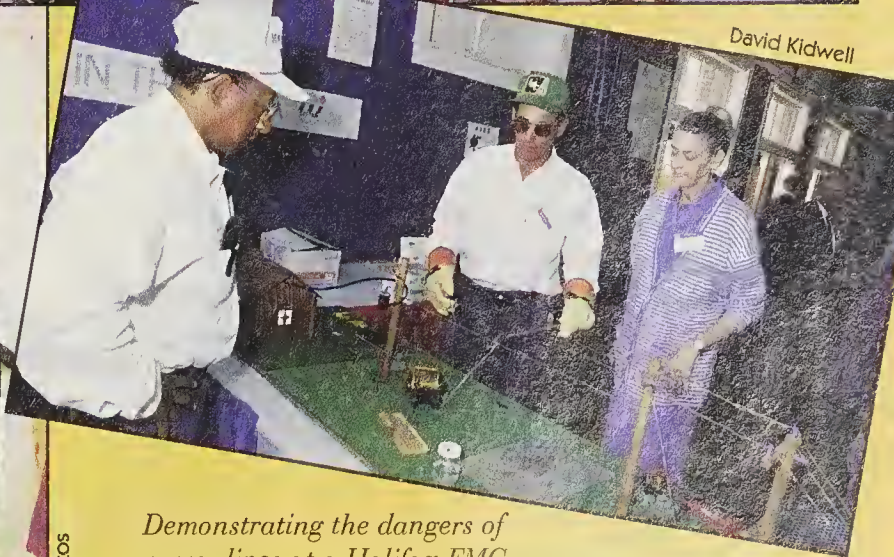
Top photo—The Barbara Berry Singers entertained at the Halifax EMC meeting. Right photo—Halifax EMC members quenched their thirst with the help of volunteers.



David Kidwell



Jerry Markatos



David Kidwell

Demonstrating the dangers of power lines at a Halifax EMC meeting.

Young and old alike participated in this Randolph EMC meeting.

1993 EMC Annual Meetings Calendar

September

- 18 Haywood**, Waynesville
Tuscola High School, Waynesville
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.
- Albemarle**, Hertford
Perquimans High School, Hertford
Registration: Noon
Business Meeting: 2:00 p.m.
- 25 Carteret-Craven**, Morehead City
West Carteret H.S., Morehead City
Registration: 4:00 p.m.
Business Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
- Union**, Monroe
Wingate College, Hwy. 74, Wingate
Registration: 7:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:45 a.m.

October

- 1 Central**, Sanford
Lee County Civic Center, Sanford
Registration: 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
- Tideland**, Pantego
Continuing Education Center, Beaufort
County Community College,
Hwy. 264 E., Washington
Registration: 7:00 p.m.
Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
- 2 Surry-Yadkin**, Dobson
Surry Central High School, Dobson
Registration: 8:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.
- 4 Cape Hatteras**, Buxton
Cape Hatteras School Aud., Buxton
Registration: 7:30 p.m.
Business Meeting: 8:00 p.m.
- Four County**, Burgaw
Pender H.S. Gymnasium, Burgaw
Registration: 6:30 p.m.
Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
- 7 Pee Dee**, Wadesboro
Anson Senior H.S. Gymnasium,
U.S. Hwy. 52 N of Wadesboro
Registration: 6:30 p.m.
Business Meeting: 7:30 p.m.
- 9 Brunswick**, Shallotte
Odell Williamson Auditorium,
Brunswick Comm. College, Supply
Registration: 8:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:30 a.m.
- Crescent**, Statesville
Statesville Senior H.S., Statesville
Registration: 8:00 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m.
- Davidson**, Lexington
Central Davidson
Senior H.S., Lexington
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Business Meeting: 10:00 a.m.

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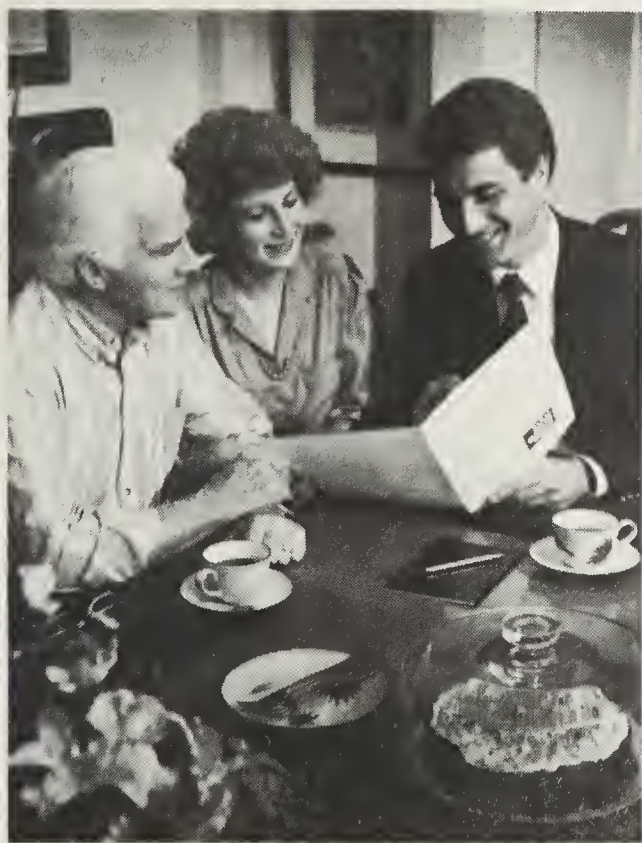
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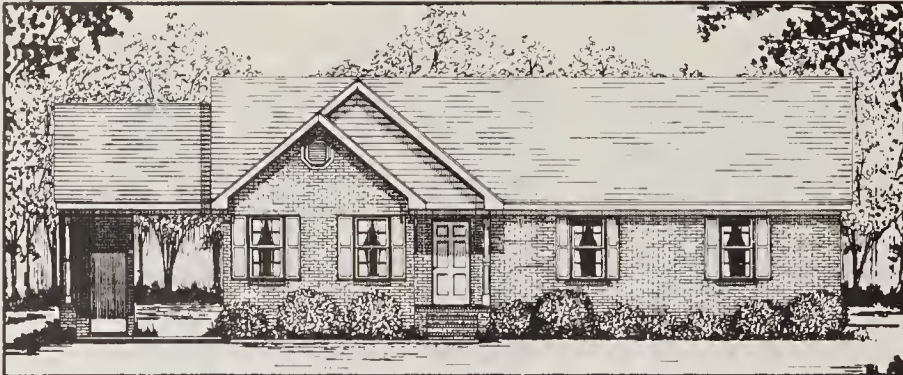
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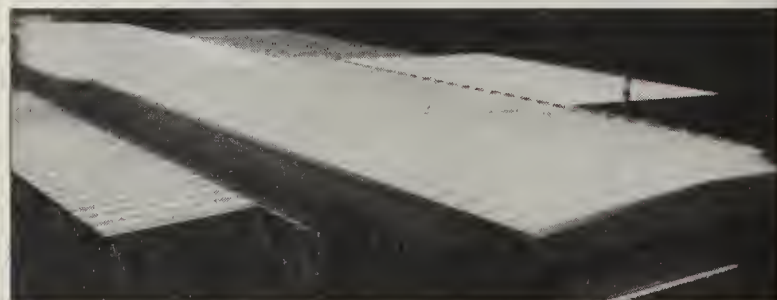
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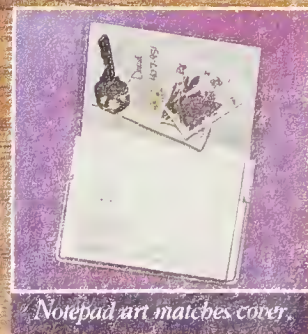
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Staunch co-op advocate retires after 37 years

A Waynesville native who spent 37 years with the North Carolina and national associations of electric cooperatives retired effective July 1.

He is J.C. Brown, who began his career in the co-op program as editor of the Tar Heel co-ops' monthly magazine and spent the past 19 years overseeing publications for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in Washington.

See related column, page 28

He served as editor and as publisher of two NRECA publications—the monthly Rural Electrification magazine and the Rural Electric Newsletter. As manager of the association's publications division, he oversaw distribution of a monthly news service for rural electric statewide magazines.

From 1956 to 1961, Brown was editor of *Carolina Farmer*, which is now known as *Carolina Country*:

"It didn't take me long to realize that I had found more than a job," he recalled. "I had found a cause."

Brown was the recipient in 1961 of NRECA's George W. Haggard Memorial Journalism Award, which honors statewide co-op magazines for their treatment of rural electric issues. In 1987

he received the H.E. Kleinfelter Award, the highest award given by the national Cooperative Communicators Association.

Between 1961 and 1973, Brown served as general manager of North Carolina's statewide organization of electric co-ops, which is now known as Carolina Electric Cooperatives. In that role, he led the co-ops' successful campaign in the General Assembly to establish assigned service territories for the co-ops and the investor-owned power companies.

Brown left North Carolina in 1961 to serve as a lobbyist for NRECA, returning the following year to head the Raleigh-based statewide organization. In 1973, he became a senior governmental affairs specialist at NRECA, and assumed the publications duties the next year.

Looking back over his career, Brown said that once he took over as editor of *Carolina Farmer*, he never wanted to pursue any other kind of work.

"I have absolutely no regrets. Being in this business allowed me to keep close to writing and to the people I was writing about."

Brown, a strong advocate of rural electrification, says the tide of federal cutbacks is causing him grave concern about the fate of the REA financing program.

"For the first time I have a lot of concern about the future. I think the (loan) program is still very needed. A federal program that's designed to provide electric service for rural areas gives Americans freedom to live wherever they choose and enjoy electric service at reasonable rates. It's too good a program to let wither away."

In announcing Brown's retirement, NRECA Communications Director Warren Dunn described him as "one of the strongest defenders of the rural electric movement."



J.C. Brown, left, accepts the George W. Haggard Memorial Journalism Award, which cites the statewide rural electric publication that has presented the most effective treatment of co-op issues. With him are Mrs. George Haggard and REA Administrator Norman Clapp. The award was presented in February 1961 at the NRECA Annual Meeting in Dallas.

Brown put it in other terms: "I'm more cantankerous than most and would rather fight than not."

He says he'll "keep in touch" with the program from his home in Northern Virginia when he's not traveling.

"I have lots of North Carolina relatives; my mother lives there. So we'll be visiting quite a bit," he said. ☛

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MCCR93

Winning poultry recipes

Rosemarie Berger of Jamestown became the 1993 National Chicken Cooking Contest champion when her recipe for Caribbean Chicken Drums was chosen as the best of 51 finalists in the cook-off. The 54-year-old grandmother received \$25,000 and a Tappan electric range from Frigidaire Corporation.



The recipes of all 1993 finalists are available in a new edition of "The Chicken Cookbook." Send a check or money order for \$1.75, including postage, to: Chicken Cookbook, Department NBC, Box 307, Coventry, CT 06238.

Caribbean Chicken Drums

by Rosemarie Berger, Jamestown

- 8 broiler-fryer chicken drumsticks
- 2 tablespoons oil
- 1 can (14½ oz.) whole peeled tomatoes, cut in chunks
- 1 can diced green chilies
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- ¼ teaspoon ground allspice
- ¼ cup mango chutney, chopped
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- ¼ cup dark seedless raisins
- 1 large banana, sliced
- 1 ripe mango, sliced

In frypan, place oil and heat to medium temperature. Add chicken and cook, turning about 10 minutes or until brown on all sides. Add tomatoes, chilies, brown sugar and allspice. Bring to a boil, cover, reduce heat to low temperature and cook 20 minutes. Add mango chutney, lemon juice and raisins. Cover and cook about 15 minutes or until fork can be inserted in chicken with ease. Remove chicken to serving platter. Skim fat from sauce. Add banana to mixture in frypan; heat thoroughly. Spoon fruit and a little sauce over chicken. Garnish with mango slices. Place remaining sauce in separate dish and pass. Makes 4 servings.

It is fitting that North Carolina, the nation's leading turkey producer, would also produce a winning recipe in the 1993 National Teen Turkey Lovers' Recipe Contest. Adam Garrison received a \$1,000 prize from the National Turkey Federation and a \$500 prize from the North Carolina Turkey Federation.

Mean Green Turkey Cuisine

by Adam Garrison, Monroe

- 1 tablespoon crushed green peppercorns
 - 4 turkey tenderloins
 - 1 Granny Smith or tart apple, unpeeled, cored and thinly sliced
 - 2 tablespoons low cholesterol margarine, divided
 - ¼ cup sliced green onions
 - 1 garlic clove, minced
 - ½ cup sliced fresh mushrooms
 - 1 teaspoon dried rosemary, crumbled
 - ½ teaspoon celery seeds
 - 1 tablespoon cornstarch
 - ½ cup dry white wine or sherry
 - ½ cup chicken broth
 - 1 pound spinach noodles, prepared according to package directions
- Press peppercorns into each side of turkey tenderloins; set aside.

In 12-inch non-stick skillet, over medium-high heat, cook apple slices in 1 tablespoon margarine 2 to 3 minutes or until crisp-tender. Remove apple slices from skillet; set aside.

In same skillet, add turkey and remaining 1 tablespoon margarine and cook 4 to 5 minutes on each side; remove tenderloins. Add onions, garlic, mushroom, rosemary and celery seeds to skillet. Lower heat and saute 2 to 3 minutes.

In small bowl, dissolve cornstarch in wine and broth; add to vegetable mixture in skillet. Bring mixture to boil, stirring constantly. Return tenderloins to skillet; reduce heat and simmer 5 minutes or until sauce is slightly thickened.

To serve, slice turkey into medallions. Arrange noodles on 4 plates, top with apples, turkey medallions and spoon vegetable mixture over top. Serves 6.

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These plans are arranged and sponsored by National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA), a non-profit association located at 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036. NRECA has been providing its member rural electric cooperatives across the nation with quality products and services since 1942.



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NC0993



A McDowell County history ... a super refrigerator ... State Fair schedule

McDowell County publishes its own Heritage Book

To commemorate the Marion-McDowell County Sesquicentennial, the McDowell County Heritage Book is on sale through the end of September.

The 342-page book is comprised of 20 sections covering topics such as prehistoric times, pioneers, communities and towns, schools, churches and businesses.

Much of the book is devoted to the county's families. It also includes tributes, memories, memorials and cemeteries.

Proceeds will help pay for the year-long sesquicentennial celebration and for community projects such as restoration of the county courthouse.

The book sells for \$59.95 (in-state) and \$57.95 (out-of-state). Orders or inquiries may be addressed to McDowell Heritage Book, Box 2570, Marion, N.C. 28752 or to Joanne S. Johnston at (704) 652-5304.

Students learn cooperative leadership skills at camp

Fifty high school students from across North Carolina participated in the annual Cooperative Leadership Camp at R.J. Peeler FFA camp in White Lake. The camp is sponsored by the Cooperative

Council of North Carolina and its members.

The participants were selected and sponsored by members of the council for their leadership potential as future cooperative leaders.

In addition to the usual camp activities, participants formed their own cooperative, "Special Tees," to provide themselves with souvenir T-shirts and to experience the advantages of doing business the cooperative way.

Speakers during the week included Secretary of State Rufus Edmisten; Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture William G. Parham; Master of the N.C. State Grange Robert Caldwell; former Super Bowl star and Manager of Member and Public Relations for Randolph EMC Dave Rowe.

At the end of the five-day camp, Amanda Barker of Dallas was selected to receive the Thad Eure Cooperative Leadership Award as the 1993 Outstanding Camper. Barker was sponsored by Piedmont Farm Credit, Statesville.

Whirlpool wins Super Refrigerator contest

Whirlpool Corp. is the \$30 million winner in a contest to create an environmentally friendly, super-efficient refrigerator.

Utilities offered the prize because reducing electricity use lowers demand for electricity, which in turn reduces the need for new power plants.

Fourteen companies competed for the prize.

The new Whirlpool refrigerator is expected to be on the market by early next year.



Co-op leaders of the future at White Lake this summer.

Jim Graham receives 1993 Public Service Award

James A. Graham, North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture since 1964, is the 1993 recipient of the North Carolina Public Service Award.

The award has been presented annually since 1973 to "an outstanding public servant of the people of North Carolina." Selection is made by the North Carolina Public Service Award Society.

This year's presentation ceremony

in Raleigh was organized on behalf of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Carolinas Chapter.

The Rowan County native graduated from N.C. State University and has worked as a teacher of agriculture, research station superintendent, manager of the Winston-Salem Fair and manager of the Raleigh Farmers Market.

Graham directs a 1,300-employee department responsible for regulatory and service areas covering all aspects of agriculture.

He also operates a cow-calf breeding farm in Rowan County. He and his wife, the former Helen Ida Kirk, have two children and seven grandchildren.

Among the sponsors of the award and the dinner presentation were Four County EMC, Burgaw; Jones Onslow EMC, Jacksonville; Pee Dee EMC, Wadesboro; Roanoke EMC, Rich Square; South River EMC, Dunn; and Carolina Electric Cooperatives, Raleigh. ●

"Got A Good Thing Growing" at N.C. State Fair

Since it began in 1853, the North Carolina State Fair in Raleigh has celebrated the state's agricultural bounty in October. Both the bounty and the fair seem to grow bigger each year.

The first fair attracted nearly 6,000 people. The 1992 fair drew more than 700,000 to some 24,000 exhibits. About \$270,000 in premiums were awarded to the best Tar Heel agricultural and related products.

Agriculture produced 30 percent of North Carolina's income last year, according to the state Department of Agriculture, which sponsors the fair.

The 1993 fair is scheduled for Oct. 15-24 at the State Fairgrounds in Raleigh. Its theme is "Got a Good Thing Growing."

Parking is free. Gate admission is \$6 for adults, \$1 for children age 6-12. Children under 5, as well as adults ages 65 and older, are admitted free.

The annual Senior Citizens Festival is scheduled for Tuesday, Oct. 19.

Gates open at 9 a.m. and close at midnight. Fireworks go off nightly at the Grandstand beginning at 9:45. The Folk Festival of regional entertainment is presented daily at 10 a.m., 1 and 4 p.m.

Arena featuring performers whose recordings have topped the country music charts in recent months: Pam Tillis ("Queen of Denial"), Sammy Kershaw ("Haunted Heart"), Mark Collie ("I Was Born To Love You"), Collin Raye ("Somebody Else's Moon") and Shenandoah ("Janie Baker's Love Slave").

Also performing are country music legend Waylon Jennings and the award-winning bluegrass group Alison Krauss & Union Station.

Here's the schedule:

Oct. 15—Pam Tillis; Oct. 16—The Coasters; Oct. 17—Country comedian Jerry Clower and The Jordanares; Oct. 18—The Oak Ridge Boys; Oct. 19—Shenandoah; Oct. 20—Sammy Kershaw; Oct. 21—Alison Krauss & Union Station; Oct. 22—Mark Collie; Oct. 23—Waylon Jennings; Oct. 24—Collin Raye.

All shows begin at 7 p.m., with doors opening at 6 p.m.

State Fair

Oct. 15-24 Raleigh, NC

Got A Good Thing Growing!

©1993, NC State Fair

Livestock, produce and a large array of farm products are continuously on display and judged.

Other attractions include a country ham show, horse shows, antique farm machinery and agronomy exhibits.

The popular midway, assembled for the 70th year by Strates Shows, will feature seven new rides.

The entertainment schedule includes daily concerts in Dorton

Electric co-ops sponsor 45 youths for tour of nation's capital

Forty-five young people from North Carolina began their summer with a week-long trip to the nation's capital as members of the 1993 Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 19-25.

Twenty-one of the state's 28 cooperatives sponsored one or more local students for the annual educational adventure to Washington.

The North Carolina contingent joined over 1,200 young people from 38 states for various programs in the nation's capital.

During the week, the group took part in education sessions, visited members of North Carolina's congressional delegation and several government agencies, and toured the Smithsonian Institution museums, Arlington National Cemetery, Mount Vernon, the Capitol Building and other points of interest.

The students learned firsthand how a cooperative works by forming their own "soda pop co-op" to supply themselves with soft drinks during the trip. They elected a board of directors, and named a manager and assistant manager to oversee the co-op. Each member contributed \$1 to join. At trip's end, they dissolved the co-op, liquidated its assets, and

returned membership fees and capital credits to themselves.

"A cooperative is truly democracy in action," said Lorrie Constantinos, director of Member Services for Carolina Electric Cooperatives, which coordinated the tour. "The soda pop co-op teaches young people about the advantages of member-owned cooperatives, and helps prepare them for future leadership positions." ●

Waiting for the bus outside the Smithsonian.



Noticing names on the Vietnam War Memorial wall.

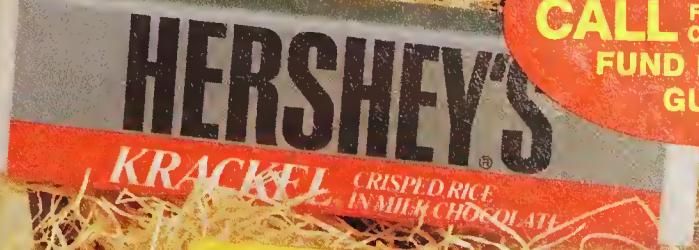
Lorrie Constantinos ph



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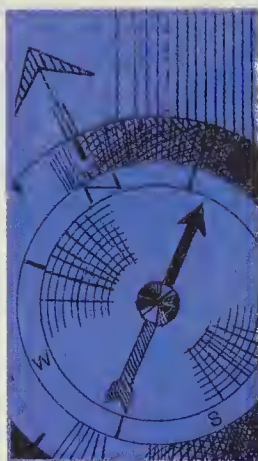
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Wadesboro People Fest **Oct. 9, Wadesboro**

Eleventh annual festival featuring arts and crafts, food and entertainment. Contact: Denise Beachum, 217 S. Green St., Wadesboro, N.C. 28170. Phone: (704) 694-2625.

SECCA Santa **Oct. 6-9, Winston-Salem**

The Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art (SECCA) hosts the 16th annual SECCA Santa, a fundraiser to benefit the organization's education department. More than 40 shops and boutiques, a preview party with refreshments, a silent auction, a fashion show, and a children's art adventure and storytelling hour. Contact Ginny Rutter, 750 Marguerite Dr., Winston-Salem, N.C. 27106. Phone: (919) 725-1904.

John Blue Cotton Festival **Oct. 9-10, Laurinburg**

Old timey festival featuring arts and crafts demonstrations, antique exhibits, music, historic house tours, cloggers, pony/hay rides, Civil War encampment, petting farm, grist mill and shingle mill in operation, antique engines, old timey fair, authentic log cabins, horseless carriages, Belgian horses, Grandpa Crachet and more. Contact Sybil Sikes, P.O. Box 1668, Laurinburg, N.C. 28353. Phone: (919) 277-2585.

Chrysanthemum Festival **Oct. 8-10, New Bern**

Street festival at Tryon Palace featuring rides, games, crafts, entertainment, harbor tours by boat and the 23rd Regiment of Royal

Welsh Fusiliers. Tryon Palace gardens will be open to the public without charge all three days. Contact Donna Flowers, P.O. Box 1007, New Bern, N.C. 28563. Phone: (800) 767-1560.

Native American Festival **Sept. 16-18, Jamestown**

Castle McCulloch hosts performance by the Aztec Dancers of Mexico, storytelling, tribal flute music, drum competition, crafts such as pottery, beadwork, hand-woven baskets and stone carvings from traders representing tribes from the Southeast. Dancers from across the nation will compete for more than \$5,000 in prize money. Contact Ruth Revels, Guilford Native American Association, 400 Prescott St., P.O. Box 5623, Greensboro, N.C. 27435. Phone: (919) 273-8686.

U.S.S. Jamestown **Oct. 9-11, Branson, Mo.**

Survivors of the U.S.S. Jamestown (AGP-3) can obtain details about the observance of the 52nd anniversary of the Battle of Guadalcanal and Tulagi by contacting George W.B. Whitling, 107 Meadowview, Roar-

ing Gap, N.C. 28668. Phone: (919) 363-2544.

Mountain Glory Festival **Oct. 9, Marion**

Tenth annual day-long celebration of mountain heritage in western North Carolina. Arts, crafts, foodfest, children's arena and continuous entertainment. Contact McDowell Chamber of Commerce, 17 N. Garden St., Marion, N.C. 28752. Phone: (704) 652-4240.

Family Fun Fest **Sept. 11, Kannapolis**

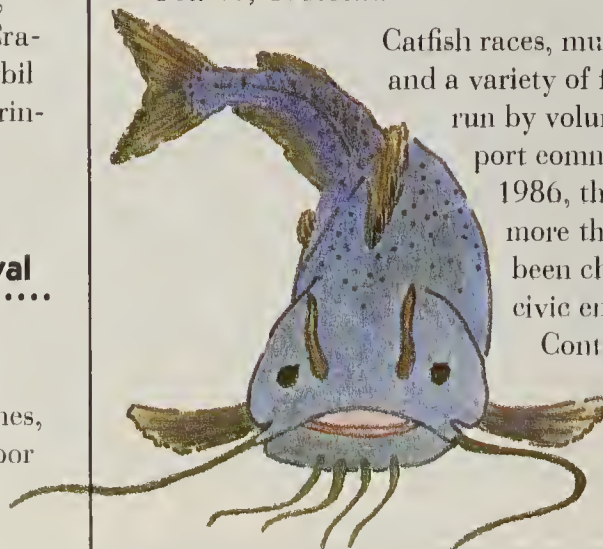
Family fun day filled with crafts, food, games, magic shows, train rides, petting zoo and music. Contact Cabarrus County Tourism Authority, 200 West Avenue, Kannapolis, N.C. 28081. Phone: (704) 938-8512.

Tar River Festival **Sept. 18, Louisburg**

Children's games, antique car show, gemstone mining, dancing, singing, food and more. Contact Mattie Kemp, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 62, Louisburg, N.C. 27549. Phone: (919) 496-3056.

1993 Fish Camp Jam

Oct. 16, Gastonia



Catfish races, musical entertainment and a variety of food. Non-profit event run by volunteers. Proceeds support community projects. Since 1986, the event has raised more than \$200,000 that has been channeled into various civic endeavors.

Contact Jan Gray, 355 S. New Hope Road, Gastonia, N.C. 28054. Phone: (704) 853-FISH.

Crafts show

Oct. 8-10, Foscoe

Pottery, wooden toys, baskets, jewelry, wind chimes, applique, quilts, leather, soft goods and toys and other crafts by 40-60 craftspeople. Blue Ridge Mountain Cloggers will entertain. Contact Blue Ridge Hearthside Crafts, Rt. 1, Box 738, Banner Elk, N.C. 28604. Phone: (704) 963-252.

Dolls and Teddy Bears

Oct. 16, Greenville

Tenth annual sale sponsored by the Doll Lovers Club. Contact Monna Wolfe, 12 Chelsea Dr., Winterville, N.C. 28590. Phone: (919) 355-1478.

Gardening classes

Chapel Hill

North Carolina Botanical Garden summer classes: "Fall Wildflower Workshop." Oct. 22-24; "Sculpture in the Garden." Sept. 26-Nov. 12; "Garden for All Seasons—Centennial Garden." Oct. 9. To register, contact Liz Lucas, 10 Pittsboro St., Campus Box 6210, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599. Phone: (919) 962-9191.

White House china

Oct. 8-10, Charlotte

"Command Performance" exhibit featuring the official White House china services of Presidents Wilson, Roosevelt, Truman, Reagan and Carter, as well as the North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia services. Lecture by Larry Moog of H. Moog Fine Porcelains, Atlanta. Contact Eugenia D. Allder, 2730 Randolph Rd., Charlotte, N.C. 28207. Phone: (704) 364-5010.

Halloween Festival

Oct. 23-31, Blowing Rock

Halloween festival featuring a haunting ride on the "Ghost Train." Contact Tweetsie Railroad, P.O. Box 388, Blowing Rock, N.C. 28605. Phone: (704) 264-9061.

Ghost walk

Oct. 22-23, New Bern

Annual walk in New Bern's Historic District along Neuse River held two nights this year. All spooks welcomed with \$10 advance ticket to

tour seven homes, 5-9 p.m. Includes trip through cemetery, plus gospel music, refreshments, exhibit of mourning attire. Contact New Bern Historical Society, P.O.

Box 119, New Bern, N.C. 28563. Phone: (919) 638-8558.



Fall Festival

Oct. 2-3, Brasstown

The John C. Campbell Folk School's 20th Annual Fall Festival featuring 75-100 craftspeople. Traditional and contemporary weaving, blacksmithing, pottery, woodwork, jewelry, basketry and more for sale. Includes demonstrations, bluegrass and folk music on two stages. Country dancing, games and a petting zoo. Contact the John C. Campbell Folk School, Rt. 1, P.O. Box 14A, Brasstown, N.C. 28902. Phone: (800) 365-5724.

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State Fair

• Oct. 15-24 Raleigh •

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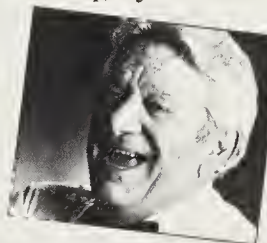
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Pam Tillis
Friday, Oct. 15



The Coasters
Saturday, Oct. 16



Jerry Clower & The Jordanaires, Sunday, Oct. 17



The Oak Ridge Boys
Monday, Oct. 18



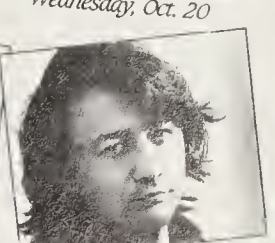
Shenandoah
Tuesday, Oct. 19



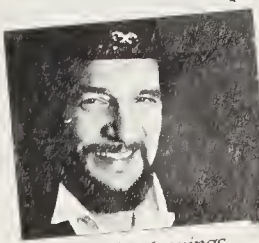
Sammy Kershaw
Wednesday, Oct. 20



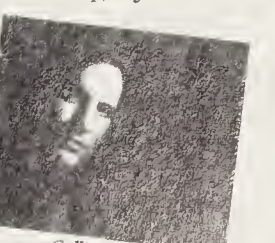
Alison Krauss & Union Station, Thursday, Oct. 21



Mark Collie
Friday, Oct. 22



Waylon Jennings
Saturday, Oct. 23



Collin Raye
Sunday, Oct. 24

Hank's Gardening Guide

by Hank Smith



Time to tidy up
as nights
become cool.

Now's the time of transition between the warmer months of summer and the cooler months of autumn. Nights become somewhat longer and cooler; foliage begins to show signs of color changes that are ahead.

Tidying-up activities begin as we remove spent annuals or rejuvenate straggly ones by severe pruning. Many annuals that have grown leggy can be cut back to encourage new growth and another crop of flowers before frost.

Among garden chores are: selecting spring-flowering bulbs for later planting; mowing; watering and feeding as needed; continuing to spray roses for insect and disease control; digging-dividing-resetting perennials.

Clip 'n rake

Pick off all dead leaves; rake all litter from beneath plants. To ignore this clean-up is to encourage overwintering of insect and disease organisms.

Clip away faded blossoms of crepe myrtle, althea, buddleia and vitex. This will prevent seed formation and help keep plants blooming longer.

If perennial verbena and phlox have passed their prime, cut them back. Fertilize and keep well watered. You'll be rewarded with beautiful fall blooms.



Keep vegetables coming

If you haven't planted your fall vegetable garden, get it underway soon. Cabbage and other members of the same family (such as cauliflower, broccoli, brussel sprouts, collards and kale) usually are available as transplants from garden centers.

However, many cool-season crops are easily grown from seed. Among these are mustard, turnips, lettuce and Chinese cabbage.

Root crops like beets, onions, radishes and carrots also can be grown by sowing seeds.

In order to secure an even stand of seedlings, sow seed closer than needed. When seedlings are about an inch tall, begin thinning to provide growing space for those that are left in the row.

Crowded seedlings will not develop properly if they are forced to compete for light and moisture, as well as nutrients.

It is wise to thin twice. The first thinning should be at half the spacing shown on the seed packet. This will allow for possible losses due to insects and/or diseases. When the seedlings develop two to four true leaves, thin to the recommended spacing. The second thinnings of leafy greens can be used for a salad.

Seedlings may be thinned by pulling out excess plants after watering to soften soil. This reduces root damage to remaining seedlings. A better way of thinning is to use scissors to snip off the little plants at the soil line. This way, roots of remaining seedlings are not disturbed.

About four weeks after planting seeds or setting out transplants, fertilize with a half cup of 10-10-10 per 10 feet of garden row. Sprinkle fertilizer beside plants; scratch into the top one to two inches of soil with a hoe. Water well, taking care to wash off any fertilizer spilled on foliage.

Houseplants

Repot houseplants to get them ready for the winter season. You'll want to inspect each plant closely for signs of insects and diseases. Make any necessary applications of spray.

Remove any unsightly foliage. Pinch back growth tips as needed to create a compact plant.

Groom roses

Roses should be groomed for autumn bloom; some growers think those produced in autumn are the best of the year. Remove faded blooms to prevent seed formation. Roses and other plants spend an amazing amount of energy in the production of seed.

Nasturtiums for winter

Nasturtium seed can be grown for indoor flowering during winter. Place the pots in a sunny window.

Select poor soil for nasturtiums—soil that is too fertile can cause rank leaf growth, with poor flower production. As plants



mature, pinch them back to keep them stocky and compact.

Vivid colors, which range through yellows, orange, red and burgundy, add a cheerful note indoors in the winter. The climbing nasturtium makes a striking window garden plant.

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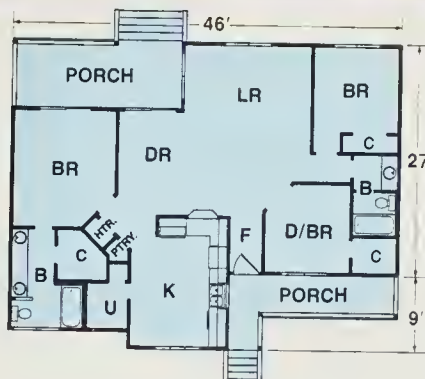


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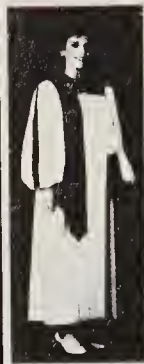
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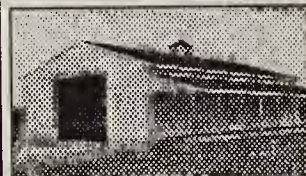
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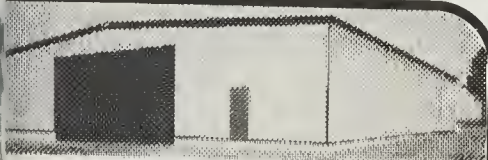


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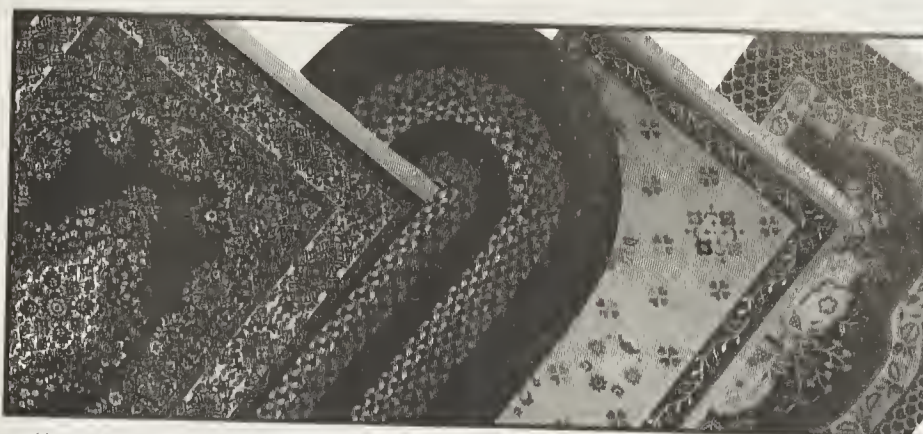
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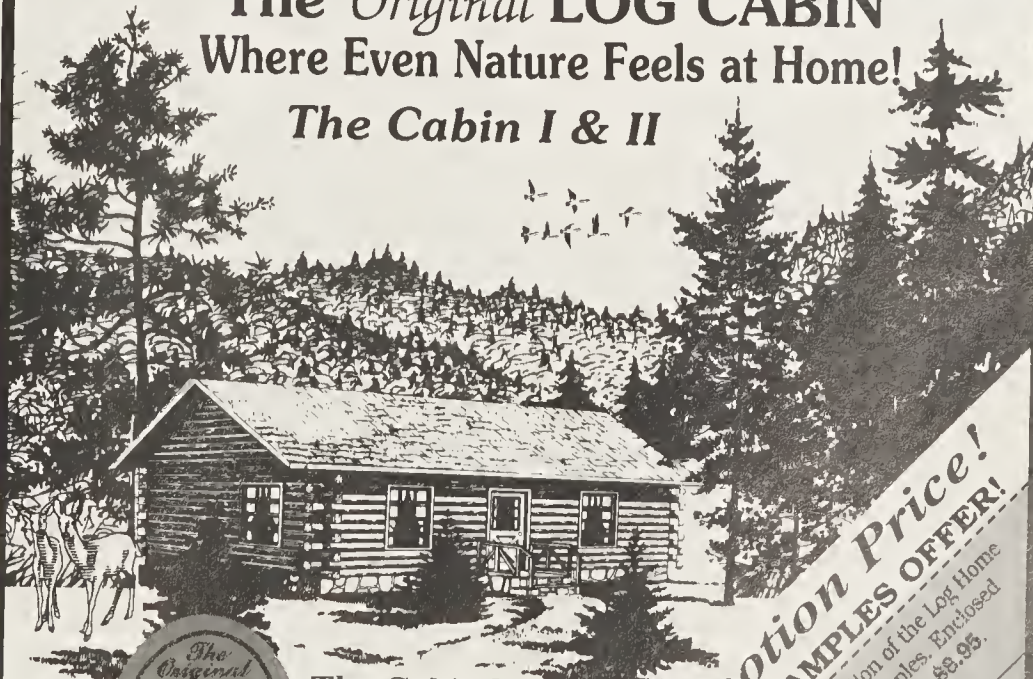
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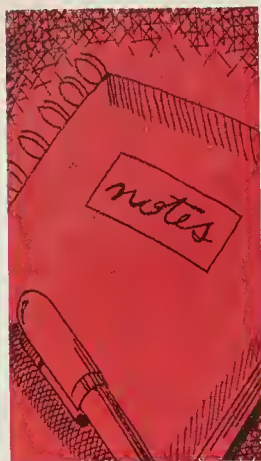
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When he became editor of this magazine, he found more than a job. He found "a cause."

Memories stir as a "hero" quietly makes his exit

Looking back now, J.C. Brown says he was somewhat "star struck" when he represented this magazine at his first meeting of rural electric editors back in June 1956.

The Waynesville native had just signed on as editor of the magazine when he and his counterparts from around the country assembled in Indiana for their annual summer meeting.

See related story, page 14

J.C., who retired July 1 after 37 years as a writer, editor and professional advocate of rural electrification, recalled his impressions of that gathering in a "farewell" column he wrote for a National Rural Electric Cooperative Association newsletter.

He remembered being awed by the company the editors kept: the movers and shakers of the national cooperative movement.

One of them was David Hamil, President Eisenhower's new administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, who would eventually serve in that post under a total of four presidents. J.C. said Hamil was "of a breed of dachshund firebrands who are most at home doing battle on the side of the underdog."

The description also could have applied to the late Bill Crisp, who became one of the movers and shakers after helping to establish North Carolina's statewide organization of co-ops and later hiring J.C. as editor of its official publication.

After leaving the magazine, J.C. served stints as manager of the Tar Heel co-op organization and as a lobbyist, editor and publications manager for NRECA.

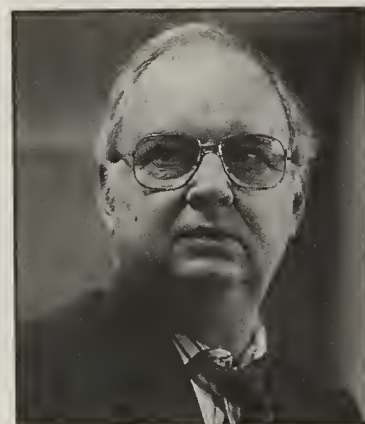
His column continued: "It didn't take me long to realize that I had found more than a job. I had found a cause. I became acquainted with some giants of

the public power and REA movements, people whose names were known to me from college texts.

"This was pretty heady stuff, but what really hooked me was being able to get to know and write about the people who were the direct beneficiaries of REA and federal power."

He may have been drawn so strongly to the program, he said, because his craft took him into the homes of people whose lives were changed by rural electrification. His work compelled him "to listen to what they were saying, to think about what they were feeling."

"When I was successful at my job, I could feel the same things they felt, and put what I saw and felt on paper. When



J.C. Brown

I could do that, I was happy."

J.C. described an incident from the late 1950s when he was invited to take pictures and write about the day a

family first received power from Jones Onslow Electric Membership Corporation, Jacksonville:

"The woman-of-the-house looked to be in her early 40s, and she beckoned me shyly back into her kitchen after the co-op officials had gone on ahead to their cars and trucks. Carefully, she retrieved a new electric iron from a cabinet. She looked at it like it was a precious, fragile jewel, and asked me to show her how to use it. Never in her life had she used an electric iron. That, more than the washer or the freezer or the radio, was what electricity meant to her. REA? REA was not a federal agency. It was an electric iron."

When J.C. quietly made his exit from the rural electrification program, he did so amid warm wishes from his colleagues at NRECA.

Bob Bergland, the association's CEO, had set the tone for the occasion by paying tribute to him in a column that was published in Rural Electrification magazine, which Brown had served as editor and as publisher.

The EVP said, "J.C. built and maintained NRECA's publications as clear, professional and forthright carriers of all the interests that make up the rural electric program—legislative, economic, technical, community and political."

Through those publications, Brown and NRECA "provided an open forum for the thousands of voices in the rural electric program" and they listened carefully, Bergland said.

"We're fortunate to have people like J.C. Brown who remind us to listen hard to everyone. Listening is how we provide representation and how we make cooperatives work."

Sharon O'Malley, who worked with J.C. as a liaison with the rural electric utilities, wrote about his last day in the office and her vain attempt to avoid crying. The tears came when she gave him a going-away gift and they shared a moment of sadness. He'd vowed not to think of anything sentimental and certainly didn't want a scene.

Even so, she wrote, "he sort of ate one when every single person who works in the Communications department lined up at his office door to get pictures taken with him. Pat brought in a camera with a flash so we could have Polaroid mementos of our hero's last day at work."

A co-worker suggested that the day ought to be celebrated as "the culmination of a long and worthwhile and productive and victorious career," but she couldn't make herself feel festive. Instead of "raising a club soda to toast J.C.'s brilliant career," Sharon typed at her keyboard to write about the man and the quality of his writing. Here are a few of her comments:

- "J.C. has a talent for turning the ordinary into the extraordinary in his writing." She offered this example:

"Government is a bother, and bureaucrats are often, well, bureaucratic."

- "J.C.'s writing is pithy and clever and incredibly readable. How can you help but pay attention to a writer who has the guts to advise President Bush to 'drink a glass of warm milk before bedtime and lay off the pills,' or who plainly states that Diane Sawyer is on Prime Time Live 'for adornment, akin to the Uh Huh girls in Ray Charles' Pepsi commercials.'"

- "The thing I'll miss most about J.C. (I'm getting sad again) is how big and soft his heart is and how easily he's able to spill it onto a piece of paper."

To prove her point and offer "a peek inside J.C.'s heart," she reprinted a column he wrote in January, 1988. (See box below.) He closed the piece with a suggestion that his musings would probably make "little difference."

Sharon took issue with that.

"J. C. was wrong about that one. Everything he did around here made a difference, from what he stood for to how he wrote about it. His writing makes readers laugh and cry, and I hope to see more of it if he can squeeze in a few hours at the word processor between rounds of golf and sunny days on Outer Banks beaches." ●



The Wayward Cart

By J.C. Brown

There is a great, sweeping curve in the lightly traveled road that I use as a shortcut on my way from northern Virginia to the District. ... At the apex of its curve, the road affords an untroubled view of the Washington skyline.

Or, it did until that day. ... Just off the curb, breaking the horizon, was the universal symbol of the homeless: a shopping cart ... piled high with bulging trash bags and loose clothing.

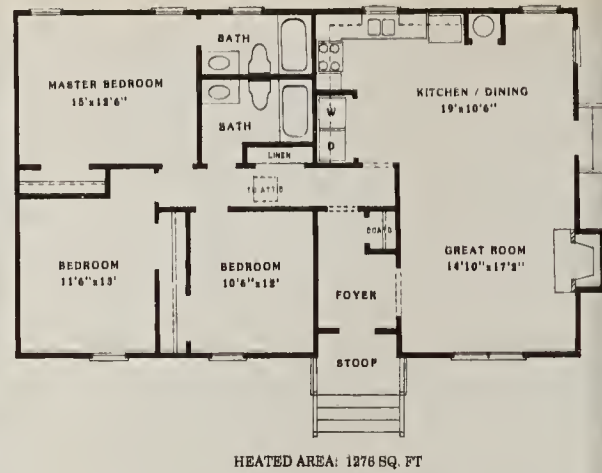
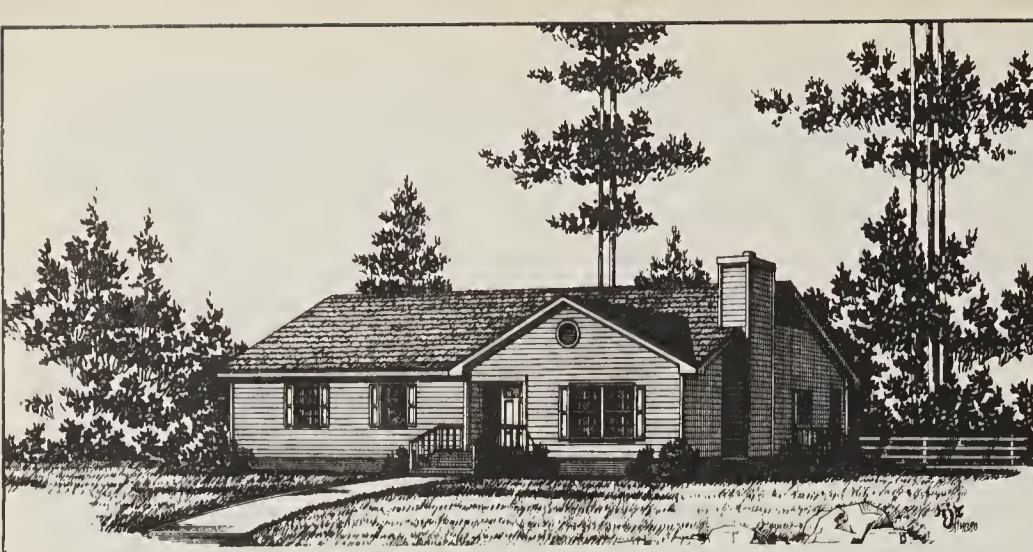
My immediate reaction was pretty much what I feel when unexpectedly I come across street people on the heating grates or sleeping at subway entrances. The cart did not belong there. ... It disturbed me, and I didn't know what to make of it or do about it.

I assumed that by the next day the tenders of the public landscape would have restored the scene to a proper state of tranquility and the shopping cart to the Safeway.

But the cart and contents were there the next day, and the next day, and days and months thereafter; and I worried that one day it would be gone. It rained and it was still there, and there came a great, surprising November snow and it was still there. And the longer it lasted, the more attached I became to it.

Sometime after Thanksgiving, the cart disappeared. Its contents remained beside the road, but each time I passed, the heap had become smaller. A few days before Christmas, there was only a pitiful handful of rags left. You wouldn't have noticed at all unless you were looking for them.

It seems like the time has come to write something about the shopping cart, but I still don't know what to make of it or what to say. It probably makes little difference.



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Take a whirl at a hula hoop contest.
Enter a dance marathon.

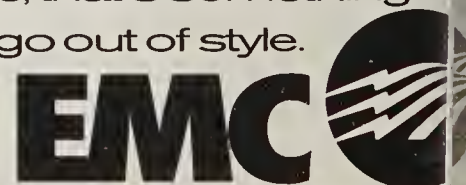
Ping pong around the village square
on a pogo stick.

If you're going to waste energy, at
least have fun at it.

If you want to save energy, the kind
that costs you money every month,
have a Comfort Machine installed.

It keeps you warm in winter, cool in
summer, and, compared to many fuel
burning systems, it keeps you much
more comfortable with the power bill all
year long.

Whatever fads may come and go in
the years to come, that's something we
expect will never go out of style.



A member of Carolina Electric Cooperatives serving 1.6 million consumers in 95 North Carolina counties. The Comfort Machine is a registered trademark.